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Message Text

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43
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAM-01 SAJ-01 AID-05 /089 W
---------- 030860
R 061141Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3710
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR
USDOCOSOUTH
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 22862

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, CY
SUBJECT: QUAI REMAINS CONCERNED ABOUT SISMIK, CYPRUS DEADLOCK

REF: ATHENS 8003 (DTG 051510Z AUG 76)

1. ACTING QUAI DIRECTOR MEDITERRANEAN AFFAIRS REUILLARD SPOKE TO US AT SOME LENGTH ABOUT QUAI'S CONTINUING CONCERNS ABOUT SISMIK EXERCISE. REUILLARD SAID THAT UNDOUBTEDLY THERE HAD BEEN SOME HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS WHICH HAVE LED TO CURRENT FEELING THAT SISMIK'S EXPLORATORY TRIP MAY NOT LEAD TO IMMINENT GREEK-TURKISH CRISIS. (THIS MORE RELAXED TONE WAS ALSO REFLECTED IN OUR MOST
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RECENT CONVERSATION AT ELYSEE.) EVEN SO, REUILLARD

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QUESTIONED WHETHER SISMIK VOYAGE WAS IN FACT WITHOUT CONTINUING SIGNIFICANT RISK, SINCE UNFORESEEN MISUNDERSTANDINGS COULD STILL ARISE.

2. EVEN MORE IMPORTANT, REUILLARD SAID, WERE THE INTRINSIC IMPLICATIONS OF THE SISMIK VOYAGE. WHETHER THERE WAS AN INCIDENT OR CRISIS OR NOT, THE TURKS ARE USING THE SISMIK TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR DETERMINATION TO PUSH FORWARD AND TO ASSERT THEMSELVES IN THE AEGEAN. FOR THE SHORT-TERM THIS CONSTITUTED DELIBERATE NEEDLING FOR GREEKS. FOR THE LONGER TERM IT SUGGESTS THAT, UNLESS MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS IN AEGEAN CAN QUICKLY BE FOUND, THE GREEKS WILL CONTINUE TO FIND THEMSELVES CONFRONTED WITH TURKISH PRESSURE IN THIS AREA. THIS, QUAI FEELS, CAN ONLY LEAD TO TROUBLE.

3. AS REGARDS CYPRUS, REUILLARD EXPRESSED ONCE MORE QUAI'S DISAPPOINTMENT OVER WHAT IT HAS, FOR SOME TIME, CONSIDERED TO BE WALDHEIM'S INEFFECTIVENESS ON THIS ISSUE. REUILLARD SAW NO REAL POSSIBILITIES FOR FURTHER INITIATIVES FOR THE PRESENT, BUT CONTINUED TO SET STORE IN IMPORTANCE OF CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION OF THE US-TURKISH ISSUE AS THE MAIN HOPE FOR RELIEVING UNDERLYING PROBLEMS WITH THE TURKS. EVEN SO, QUAI IS INCREASINGLY OF VIEW THAT TURKS IN FACT HAVE NO INTENTION OF EVER GOING BEYOND MINOR
OPTICAL CONCESSIONS ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION.
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